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## Mayor Coleman appoints Jessica Kingston as Director of Human Rights and Equal Economic Opportunity Department

SAINT PAUL – Mayor Chris Coleman announced today that he has appointed Jessica Kingston as the new Director of Saint Paul's Department of Human Rights and Equal Economic Opportunity.

"Jessi has an impressive track record of leadership in human rights and remarkable experience in procurement, both qualities that will be of tremendous value to the city and to HREEO in her new role," Mayor Chris Coleman said. "I look forward to welcoming her to Saint Paul."

Kingston, currently the Associate Director of Purchasing for Digital River, has close to 20 years of experience working at various levels of leadership in the private sector. As a member of the Edina Human Rights Commission since 2009 and chair for the past two years, Kingston has been in front of a range of municipal and state-wide human and civil rights issues and proved herself to be a leader in the human rights arena.

"I am both honored and thrilled to become the new Director of the Department of Human Rights and Equal Economic Opportunity. I have a strong passion for the advancement of human rights. My experiences connecting and collaborating with diverse cultures have driven me toward opportunities where diversity and inclusion are the priority. I look forward to working in the City of Saint Paul and bringing my passion for diversity, equality and inclusion of all perspectives," Kingston said.

Kingston holds a bachelor's degree from Macalester College and a master's degree from Metropolitan State University. She will assume her post on October 2, replacing former Director Luz Frias, who accepted a position as Vice President of Community Philanthropy at the Minneapolis Foundation in April.

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